Councils are autonomous bodies and they will take a decision in this regard in respect of their employees.

(b) to (d) Presently, the Non-Practising allowance for the ISM & H doctors working under the Ministry has been revised only in respect of those posts where clinical duties are attached. The matter regarding grant of NPA to posts to which clinical duties are not attached is under consideration.

Representations from Research Employees Welfare Association, Madras

1522. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from Research Employees Welfare Association, Madrass regarding mal-administration, non-payment of employees' wages etc. in Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it is due to non-availability of funds to CCRAS;

(c) if so, the reasons for not making funds available to CCRAS;

(d) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the senior officers of CCRAS is being held shortly at an expense of 7 to 8 lakhs of rupees; and

(e) whether it is advisable to spend such a buge amount for the meeting when the council's financial position is not good, even to meet the wage bill of the employees; if so, whether the meeting is proposed to be postponed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and(c) There has been some delay in making payment of salaries to the employees of the Central Council of Research in Ayurveda and Siddha during the year 1988-89 due to administrative and financial reasons. Step are being taken to avoid recurrence of delay during this Year.

(d) A seminar on 'future strategy on development of Ayurveda' in connection with the Centenary Celebration of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will be held on 26th and 27th August, 1989 at Lucknow, as approved by the Governing Body of the Council. Meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committees on Ayurveda and Siddha will also be held together to avoid additional expenditure. The total expenditure on the Seminar is Rs. 2.5 lakhs only.

(e) The expenditure on the seminar and the meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committees on Siddha and Ayurveda will be met out of the sanctioned Plan budget of the Council. For this purpose, specific provision has already been made under the sub-head 'Seminar and Conferences'.

Memorandum from Research Employees' Welfare Association, Madras

1523. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Memorandum dated the 23rd June, 1989 has been received by the Prime Minister from Research Employees' Welfare Association, Madras about the financial matters of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha;

(b) if so, the details of the matter mentioned in the Memorandum; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to settle the matter in the interest of the CCRAS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Memorandum mainly relates to the problem of timely disbursement of salary to the employees of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, and reduction in contingent grant of the Units by the Council.

(c) Steps are being taken to make additional funds available to the Council by diversion from Plan Funds and other savings.